(c) the extent to which the benefits have accrued to farmers under this project;

(d) whether there are any deficiencies and administrative irregularities in implementating the project; and

(e) if so, the details thereof, and the action taken in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA): (a) and (b) A project namely Indo Italian Programme for the development of temperate climate fruit crops was implemented in two phases in the states of U.P., J&K and H.P. The first phase was from June 1984 to December 1987 and second phase from August 1990 to June, 1994. The outlays and expenditure in the project for Uttar Pradesh were as under:—

Rs. in lakh

	Italian Share	State/India Share	Total
Outlays	389.75	142.51	532.26
Expenditure	390.17	294.54	651.13

The important components of the project were technical assistance, supply of equipments, plant and planting material, nursery and laboratory equipments, green houses structures, training of personnels in India and abroad and transfer of technology etc. The important fruit crops were apple, pear, apricot, plum, peach, cherry, almond, walnut, hazalnut, pistachionut, strawberry and citrus fruits besides olive which was introduced as a new crop.

(c) The farmers were trained on the new technology in temperate fruit crops. The demonstration plots were laid on the farmers field for olive crop. The planting material, fertilisers and pesticides were also provided to the farmers under the project.

(d) and (e) During the implementation of the project, no deficiency/administrative irregularity has been brought to the notice of the Government. The project has been successfully implemented and has ended in June, 1994.

Konkan Railway Project

4910. DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether for the construction of the Konkan Railway Project, the number of tunnels, major projects and minor projects were 71, 136 and 1605 respectively as planned in 1990-91;

(b) whether the numbers grew to 93 for tunnels, 171 for major projects and 1752 for minor projects during 1995-96;

(c) whether the construction work was forced to keep changing its aligment over the years resulting in these changes and cost overruns; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir. The numbers have increased to 92 for tunnels, 179 for major bridges and 1819 for minor bridges.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) When the construction of the Konkan Railway Project was entrusted to the Konkan Railway Corporation Ltd., they had to do the re-survey of the then proposed alignment as the earlier survey done by the Southern Railway was not complete. The Corporation, while surveying the alignment, eased the gradients from 1:100 to 1:150 and also eased the curvatures from 7 degrees to 1.4 degrees for better operational benefits. Due to these reasons the number of tunnels, major bridges and minor bridges have increased.

Resettlement of Refugee Families

4911. SHRI JAGMOHAN: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a Cabinet decision was taken on August 25, 1989 to resettle refugee families from the Punjab and Bangladesh and families of some ex-servicemen in the Kasturba Niketan Complex;

(b) whether even after seven years, no action has so far been taken in this regard;

(c) the reasons for delay and failure to monitor the Scheme;

(d) whether in view of the non-implementation of the Scheme, hundreds of refugees families are living in sub-human conditions and facing serious health hazards and running the risk of getting injured by the falling roofs and walls; and

(e) the measures contemplated to ward off the hazards and also to secure speedy implementation of the aforesaid decision?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA): (a) to (e) The requisite information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[Translation]

Article 370

4912. SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state

(a) whether the Government have received proposals/ suggestions for abrogating Article 370 and the utility of the Article in the present circumstances; and

(b) if so, the decision of the Government in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA): (a) Views have been expressed from time to time, in some quarters that Article 370 should be abrogated.

(b) The Government do not propose to amend or abrogate Article 370 of the Constitution.

[English]

Fake Citizenship Certificate

4913. SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware of the issuance of the fake citizenship certificates to the Bangladeshi nationals with MBBS degrees by certain border districts officials to enable them to secure jobs in the country;

(b) if so, whether any inquiry has been conducted by the Government to identify the officials involved in the issuance of fake citizenship certificates to the Bangladeshi nationals;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the action taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA): (a) to (d) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[Translation]

Commercialization of Agriculture

4914. SHRI NITISH KUMAR:
DR. MAHADEEPAK SINGH SHAKYA:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any new schemes have been introduced by the Government to encourage the cultivation of more economical crops so that agriculture is commercialized in the country; and

(b) if so, the details of these schemes and the names of the agricultural products whose cultivation is to be encouraged?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING)(SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA): (a) and (b) There is no new scheme to "commercialise agriculture" in the country. However some schemes for the promotion of horticultural crops, other than foodgrains and cash crops, have been introduced during the Eighth Five Year Plan. A Statement in this regard is attached.

STATEMENT

New Schemes for Promotion of More Economical Crops during VIII Plan

The details of the new schemes started during the VIII Five year Plan for promotion of horticultural crops are as under:

	Names of schemes	Activities taken up under the scheme	VIII Plan outlay (Rs. in crore)
	1	2	3
(1)	Commercial Flouriculture	Setting up of nodal centres for introduction of new varieties, their multiplication and supply of planting material, training centres for post-harvest handling of cut flowers and area expansion.	10.00
(2)	Promoting cultivation of root and tuber crops	Introduction of improved technology and setting up of tissue culture units	2.50
(3)	Mushroom cultivation	Setting up of spawn production units, pasturized compost units and training	10.00